

TULARE LAKE BASIN WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

ESTABLISHED 192

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SEP 2 3 1999

September 23, 1999

Mr. Lester Snow Executive Director CALFED Bay-Delta Program 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155 Sacramento, California 95814

> Re: Comments on the June 1999 Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR for the Bay-Delta Program

Dear Mr. Snow:

The Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District is a participant in and has provided comments on the referenced document submitted to you by the Ag/Urban Caucus by letter dated September 23, 1999. The District is also a member of the State Water Contractors which also submitted comments to you. Please be advised that our District totally supports and endorses these comments.

As we stated and you no doubt heard at several of the public hearings recently concluded, there is a great concern that CALFED has lost sight of its original purpose to balance the needs of eco system restoration with those of increasing dependable water supplies from the Delta – getting better together was echoed at many of the hearings. CALFED's proposal to do little or nothing for seven years as far as developing water supplies is a disservice to all the people of California. At the hearings, many noted the water development gridlock which has enveloped California for over two decades and how CALFED was looked upon as a solution to this problem by joining the stakeholders with the State and Federal Governments to arrive at balanced, short term/long term programs. As stated by Senator Costa at the Visalia hearing and restated by almost all the speakers, CALFED needs a course correction in order to balance all the growing water needs of

California. The draft EIR/EIS must be modified to again bring balance to the CALFED process.

Yours truly,

Brent L. Graham

General Manager